3. Government concur with the Collector that it will be advantageous to employ three, in place of two, Enquiry Officers. The opportunity of the appointment of Mr. Trevor as an Assistant to the Collector may be made use of to place him on this enquiry, as his present state of health is too delicate to admit of his having charge of talukas. The Revenue Commissioner may be asked, in connection with his letter No. 264, dated 18th January, whether the services of Messrs. Manekjee Cowasjee or Shunker Pandoorung can be spared for this work from Khandesh, their places being supplied by Supernumerary Collectors.

4. Mr. Hope has not stated what higher fees for sunnuds he would propose to be charged for the two classes of cases mentioned in the 12th para. of his letter. This he should now be requested to do through the Revenue Commissioner, N.D.

(Signed) E. W. RAVENSCROFT,
Acting Chief Secretary to Government.

To

The Revenue Commissioner, N.D.
The Revenue Commissioner, S.D.
The Accountant General.
The Collector of Surat.

Revenue Department.

Bombay Castle, 21st April 1873.

His Excellency the Governor in Council is pleased to direct that the undermentioned fees be levied under Section X. of Bombay Act IV., 1868, for sunnuds issued in the City of Surat, in supersession of the rate fixed in para. 4 of the Government Notification of 10th February 1869 :—

I.—Sunnud for a single number or comprising not more than two subordinate properties or "pot" numbers. Rs. 2
Ditto comprising three or four do. ..... „ 3
Ditto five or six do. ..... „ 4
Ditto seven and upwards do. ..... „ 5

II.—Provided always that the fee for a sunnud granted for lands vacant prior to 1836, and now vacant or held for less than 5 years previous to the introduction of Bombay Act I., 1865, or IV., 1868, shall be as under :—

If comprising a single number or not more than two "pot" numbers ..... Rs. 4
Ditto more than two ditto ..... „ 5

III.—Provided, likewise, that it shall be in the discretion of the Collector to reduce the fee in any case to one rupee for special reasons to be recorded in writing.

By order,
F. S. CHAPMAN,
Chief Secretary to Government.

No. 1303.

To

THE REVENUE COMMISSIONER, N.D.

Camp Teethal, 18th May 1873.

SIR,

As promised in para. 12 of my No. 713, of 12th March 1873, I have the honour to address you on the subject of the custody of vacant lands and records, and the sale of the former, in towns and cities under the operation of the City Survey Act.

2. In one of the three surveyed cities in this collectorate—Balsar—the cash receipts are already in excess of the expenditure actually incurred. But still the full financial benefits to be derived depend mainly upon the future. The sums yet to be realised in each are shown in the margin. But I find that, though the surveys of Balsar and Ránder have been complete for above a year, scarcely a yard of land has been sold since the Enquiry Officer left the place. In Surat the sales effected last year, 1871-72, fell to Rs. 2,673-14-6, and Mr. Shaw Stewart reported, in his No. 1134, of June 3rd, 1872, that "the demand for land in Surat seems to be abated, and the future realisations will be chiefly confined to sunnud fees."

City.	Government.	Municipality.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs
Surat	74,150	92,212	1,66,362
Balsar	21,455	48,990	70,445
Ránder	22,669	29,893	52,562
Total	1,18,274	1,71,095	2,89,369

3. Not only has there thus been no progress, but even the records of what has been done are in danger of being lost. At Balsar I found that, on what was called the completion of the survey, the fair maps were left by Mr. DeSouza, duly countersigned but merely drawn, neither the numbers or names having